

Newspaper	The Sun
Date	28 July 2015

10,502 English teachers retrained

The sun - 28/7/2015

> Another 20,000 underwent the ProELT upskilling programme last month

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KUALA LUMPUR: The Education Ministry has retrained another batch of 10,502 English teachers under its Programme for English Language Teachers (ProELT), Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said.

He said this increased the English teachers' competency in the current system, which is a continuation of the ministry's effort since 2013.

"A more focused effort by the ministry to increase English proficiency is done by identifying 1,191 English hotspot schools - those below national average level for English passing marks," Muhyiddin said at the launch of the 2014 Annual Report under the National Education Development Plan 2013-2025 at SMK Seri Bintang, here.

The 10,502 teachers are part of the total 60,000 English

language teachers nationwide.

In June, Muhyiddin told the Dewan Rakyat that the ministry was taking measures to increase the number of English teachers in the country.

He said then that a batch of 20,000 teachers were retrained by June.

It was reported in June that the 60,000 English teachers were tested on proficiency and almost 67% of them passed the test with high-band scores that are equivalent to others whose primary language is English.

The ministry said that various upskilling programmes are done to ensure that more teachers reach a similar benchmark.

Muhyiddin had said that the teachers who did not achieve a proper level of competency would be given guidance and training to improve their proficiency and skills through specific programmes, which included ProELT.



BERNAMAPIX

Muhyiddin listens as SMK Seri Bintang students (from left) Azwan Hekimi, Ahmad Hazimie and Muhammad Razin explain what a robot named "The Krypton" can do, at the launch of the report.